

at Alstead, N. H. The bird screamed loudly and when I began to search for a nest, flew at me twice like a bolt, so that I instinctively put up an elbow to guard my head. I found a nest containing two nearly full-grown young in a smallish pine about forty feet from the ground. On the 27th I saw at 4.45 A. M. a full-grown Goshawk kill and begin to devour a pullet under the window of the farm-house where I lived. I therefore on the 29th shot one of the young hawks from the nest and sent it to Mr. Brewster, who has identified it as a young Goshawk (*Accipiter atricapillus*). Alstead is seventeen miles from Keene, in southern New Hampshire. According to Mr. G. M. Allen this is the most southern breeding record which he can find for this bird in New England. —RALPH HOFFMANN, *Belmont, Mass.*

Barn Owl on Long Island, N. Y.—On April 23, 1902, Mr. James Forster, Superintendent on Harbeck Place at Islip, L. I., sent me a fine adult American Barn Owl (*Strix pratincola*) to be mounted. The bird was in fine plumage but rather thin in flesh. No further data could be obtained, as Mr. Forster moved away shortly after. —HENRY MOTT BURTIS, *Babylon, L. I.*

The Short-eared Owl (*Asio accipitrinus*) Taken Far Out at Sea.—The steamer 'Tampico,' which plies between Honolulu and Puget Sound, was boarded, when 680 miles off the mainland, by a Short-eared Owl which had in all probability been lured out to sea in pursuit of shore birds which at this season are in full migration, and, losing its bearings, became a wanderer at the mercy of the high seas. The bird was observed by the mate at 8 P. M. circling about high overhead. After a time it alighted on one of the yards and there remained during the night and the greater part of the following forenoon, when it was captured and placed in a cage. Capt. Ames, regarding the captive as a mascot, and not an ill omen, decided to keep it alive, and ordered it to be carefully fed on a diet of raw meat. Despite all care and attention it died Oct. 10, 1902, one day after the steamer had arrived at Honolulu. Only the wings and feet were preserved. I had the privilege of examining them and, together with the description furnished by the captain, satisfied myself that the bird was none other than an adult *Asio accipitrinus*. The wing measured 12.50, the tarsus about 1.75.

Since it is generally believed that the stock from which the Hawaiian variety of owl was derived came originally from America, the above bit of evidence may be regarded as in a measure confirming that view. Taken in connection with the record of the specimen observed (in October, 1900) by Capt. Johnson of the bark 'Roderick Dhu,' some 500 miles off the Hawaiian Islands, it makes a chain of evidence showing the relationship of the Hawaiian 'Pueo' to the continental form, and at the same time tending strongly to invalidate the subspecies *sandvicensis* of current writers.

That both of the foregoing records were made during the month of October seems more than a mere coincidence. The migration of the owls themselves, or the migration of certain birds which they pursue, may account for it. Be that as it may, the result has been the same and these Islands have received their stock of owls as a result of some such circumstance. — WM. ALANSON BRYAN, *Bishop Museum, Honolulu, H. I.*

Note on *Psittacula modesta* Cabanis. — *Psittacula modesta* Cabanis (Schomburgk. Reisen in British-Guiana, III, 1848, 727) was described from a female taken in British Guiana. This specimen, so far as known to me, has until now remained unique. Count Salvadori in 1891 (Cat. Bds. Brit. Mus., Vol. XX, p. 245, footnote) says: "Graf von Berlepsch, who has recently examined the typical specimen in the Museum of Berlin, has sent me a description of it, which agrees in every respect with the female of *Psittacula sclateri*." Salvin, five years earlier (*Ibis*, 1886, p. 70) stated, under *Psittacula modesta*: "Graf von Berlepsch is of opinion that *P. sclateri* is referable to this species, *P. modesta* being the older title."

Berlepsch and Hartert, in their recent memoir 'On the Birds of the Orinoco Region' (Nov. Zool., Vol. IX, p. 108, April, 1902) record a male specimen of *P. 'sclateri'* from "La Union on the Caura River," Venezuela, without further comment. This is the most eastern record of *P. sclateri* I have met with, the previous records being from Peru and Ecuador.

I have before me a male specimen taken by Mr. C. C. Young, on the Saramaca River, Dutch Guiana, May 31, 1899. It bears a striking resemblance to a male specimen of *P. sclateri* (No. 6313, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.), from the Verreaux Collection, labeled "Rio Javarri" (a cotype?). The Guiana bird differs in being of a lighter, more yellowish green below, particularly on the breast, and in the rump being of a brighter shade of ultramarine. That the two forms are specifically the same there seems no reason for doubt, but it seems probable that the Andean form is separable from the Guiana form, although the differences, judging from the specimens here under notice, are not strongly marked, the two forms being recognizable, respectively, as *Psittacula modesta* and *P. modesta sclateri*. — J. A. ALLEN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Breeding of the Evening Grosbeak in Captivity. — In the spring of 1901, I was given three Evening Grosbeaks alive, two females and a male, by Mr. Geo. E. Atkinson. These birds were taken at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, one young female in 1899, and a pair in February, 1900. These birds are typical *Coccothraustes vespertinus*, and had previously shown no disposition to breed, nor did they till the spring of 1902. In March I noticed that the male was not getting on with the females as well as he had previously, being frequently chased about by them; in April he had subdued them, and very soon showed a decided preference for one and so